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VERTICAL EXTENDING LIQUID/LIQUID CONTACTING COLUMN

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

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A vertical extending liquid/liquid contacting column is disclosed, which column will, when in use, contain a dispersed and a continuous liquid phase, the column having a first liquid feed inlet in the top, a first liquid outlet in the top, a second liquid feed inlet in the bottom, a second liquid outlet in the bottom and a plurality of internal trays axially spaced from each other in the column, each tray provided with a plurality of perforations for the passage of the dispersed phase and more than one downcomer or upcomer for the transport of the continuous phase, wherein the downcomer or upcomer extends respectively below or above the tray and wherein the walls of the downcomer or upcomer are inclined towards each other in the flow direction of the continuous phase. A method of use within the column is also disclosed.